

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, lines 28-35, amend the paragraph as follows:

The drawbacks cited above were overcome by the teachings of pending European Patent application No. 98202784 published as EP-A 0 980 764 on February 23, 2000, wherein a heat mode recording element is disclosed comprising, in order,

(1) a transparent support optionally carrying a subbing layer,

(2) a thin metal layer coated from an aqueous medium,

(3) a protective layer or layer pack,

characterized in that said heat mode recording element contains hypophosphorous acid, or phosphorous acid, or a mixture of both.

Page 4, line 29 to page 5, line 3, amend the paragraph as follows:

In pending European patent application Appl. No. 98203868, which was published as EP-A 0 997 918 on May 3, 2000, a process is disclosed for the preparation of a magnetic layer, said process comprising the steps of:

(1) preparing an aqueous solution containing one or more type of metal ions including nickel ions,

- (2) chemically reducing said one or more metal ions by means of a reducing agent thus forming an aqueous dispersion of metal particles including nickel,
- (3) removing all superfluous ions from said aqueous dispersion by means of a washing step, preferably an ultrafiltration and/or diafiltration step, or by means of centrifugation,
- (4) coating the resulting aqueous dispersion onto a support.

Page 5, lines 18-30, amend the paragraph as follows:

In pending European patent application Appl. No. 99200554, published as EP-A 1 031 642 on August 30, 2000, a process is disclosed for the preparation of a metal oxide based conductive layer, said process comprising the following steps, in order:

- (a) preparing an aqueous medium containing at least one type of metal salt,
- (b) chemically reducing said metal salt by a reducing agent to form a dispersion of metal particles,
- (c) washing said dispersion of metal particles,
- (d) coating said washed dispersion onto a substrate, thereby obtaining a coated layer containing metal particles,
- (e) subjecting said coated layer to an oxidizing treatment to form a conductive layer containing metal oxide particles.

Page 13, lines 1-6, amend the paragraph as follows:

In a third preferred embodiment of the present invention the sheet or web material may be used as metal oxide based conductive layer. In this case, after the preparation of the aqueous composition and its coating an extra oxidizing treatment of the metal particles is needed as explained in European patent application Appl. No. 99200554, cited above, published as EP-A 1 031 642 on August 30, 2000.